

**Public Health Improvement Partnership  
Public Health Information Technology Committee**

**Wednesday, October 22, 2003**

**9:00am – 3:30pm**

**Wyndham Hotel, SeaTac, WA**

18118 Pacific Highway South, Phone: (206) 244-6666, Fax: (206) 248-6065

<http://www.wyndham.com/hotels/SEAST/main.wnt>



**Co-Chairs:** Ed Dzedzy, Lincoln ; Frank Westrum, DOH

**Members:** Joan Brewster, DOH; Kathy Carson, Sea-King; Melanie Dalton, Kitsap; ~~Jo Hoffman, DOH~~; Teresa Jennings, DOH; ~~Bryant Karras, UW~~; Deborah Ahern for Sherri McDonald, Thurston; Jim Minty, Snohomish; ~~Patrick O'Carroll, HHS Region X~~; ~~Patty Schwendenan, Sea-King~~; Torney Smith, Spokane; ~~Greg Story, Chelan-Douglas~~; Brent Veenstra, Sea-King; Carol Villers, NE Tri; Jim O. White, DOH.

**Others:** Andrea Cody, DOH; Mike Davisson, DOH.

**Staff:** Marie Flake, DOH

Topic	ter / Facilitator, Description, Notes
WEDSS	<p>Mike Davisson – Update and review. No decisions. See ppt presentation available on PHIT web site.</p> <p>Questions / Issues raised on PHIMS - Can more than 1 person access the same case in a given department?</p> <p>Patient ID as assigned by LHJ – still needs to be addressed.</p> <p>Import / export data in the future. No direct access to database for LHJs at this time.</p>
Security	Cliff Schillers – Update and review. No decisions. See handouts available on PHIT web site.
Focus Area E & PHIT Objectives	<p>Jim O White – Update and Review. No decisions. See PHIT work plan available on PHIT web site.</p> <p>Focus Area (FA) E and G need to be understood together. Jim will be meeting with state DIS to review these two areas. They will aim to use national standards and achieve transferable data.</p> <p>FA-G, in conjunction with the PHIP Workforce Development (WFD) committee, is addressing the need for a statewide Learning Management System (LMS). An LMS sub-committee is reviewing and prioritizing the most desired features and will develop an RFP for vendors. Vendors will submit proposals and the LMS sub-committee will evaluate them and recommend a vendor to the WFD Committee. Using CDC “direct assistance”, CDC will organize the actual purchase. It is anticipated that vendors already have an array of LMS products available and that the one selected will then be customized to meet the needs in Washington. To learn more about LMS, please see the PHIP WFD web page.</p> <p>DIS is considering the development of a second Inter Governmental Network (IGN2). Frank and Jim are involved in the discussions. If you have any problems with the IGN or the DIS help desk, please let Frank know.</p>

Omaha	<p>Kathy Carson &amp; Torney Smith – Update &amp; Discussion. See Omaha handouts on the PHIT web site.</p> <p>Omaha is a standardized language for documenting personal health services. After evaluating other such standardized languages, the Public Health Nursing Directors (PHND) have agreed to focus their efforts on this system and work through the national process to further develop the public health aspects / applications and develop computerized data collection using this system. The Public Health Executive Leadership Forum (PHELF) is supportive of this work.</p> <p>PHND plans an informal pilot of the language on paper summer 2004. If funding is received from the First Steps program (or other funding sources), they plan a formal pilot of the language on paper in autumn 2004 and then will pursue grants for further development and software design / production.</p> <p>Pete Kitch of KIPS (client registration system software that some LHJs are using) has been having conversations with Patrick O'Carroll about additional application for KIPS. Torney and Kathy think that this may be one option for computerizing the Omaha system.</p> <p><b>Discussion –</b>  It is anticipated that use of the Omaha language will focus not on developing one software application for all to use, but rather use of standardized terminology and data (same definitions, data formats, etc.) so that data can be shared and compared across LHJs.</p> <p>Goal: Share client contact info among system user and programs, as allowable by HIPPA – i.e. need to enter a client only once.</p> <p>Goal: System to be housed on a DOH server.</p> <p>Will need to work with existing data systems (i.e. WIC-CIMS) in order to share data.</p> <p>Consider adding – real time messaging rather than file transfer (see Brent Veenstra for more details).</p> <p>Consider link to LMS – impact of staff training on client outcomes.</p> <p>Consider how it will fit in with DOH and state technical activities – i.e. EDI, others.</p> <p><b>ACTION –</b>  Consensus – PHIT supports this activity.</p> <p>Frank supports this activity and will consider it in the statewide plans which he participate in.</p> <p>DOH to review HIPAA aspects.</p> <p>PHND to provide PHIT with periodic updates (a couple of times a year).</p> <p>Need for coordination between First Steps and Frank Westrums' shop.</p>
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Technology Assessment	<p>Frank Westrum – Updates. No decisions.</p> <p><b>Sub-county population estimates</b> – PHIT allocated \$25,000 to this work. The estimate will include age, race, sex; both zip codes and census tract. It is anticipated that the block codes will be closely aligned, but specific data for block codes is outside the scope of this project.</p> <p>A committee has been formed lead by Phyllis Reed (DOH) and Alicia Thompson (Spokane). The committee and David Solet (SeaKing) will develop specifications and then the work will be contracted out using an RFP process with the committee reviewing responses and making a selection on November 20<sup>th</sup>. The work is expected to be complete during the first quarter of 2004. WSALPHO and Assessment Coordinators will be informed via their listservs.</p> <p><b>Discussion –</b> Consider other state agencies (OFM, DSHS, DNR, Fish &amp; Wildlife, Ecology, DCTED, DOC) sharing in the cost.</p> <p><b>IT Survey</b> – the data will be available via a web site that is password protected. Each LHJ will have an account and password. Please check out this data during the next 3 months and give feedback to Frank on the process. Any county that does not have the web address, their account and password, should contact Frank Westrum at 360-236-3105.</p>
Digital Certificate Coordination & Data Access Steward	<p>Frank Westrum – Update &amp; Discussion. See handout on PHIT web page.<b>Digital Certificates (DC)</b> – There are 22 LHJs with at least 1 DC. It takes 4-6 weeks to get one, on average. DC are for individuals and an individual needs only 1 DC. DOH paid for DC's last year (approx \$100 each) and plans to pay for renewal (approx \$35 each).</p> <p>The data steward at each LHJ is the person who informs DOH, who in that LHJ get access to what data. (see handout on the PHIT web site). DOH has a spreadsheet of DCs issued. To enhance coordination, DOH aims to develop a quarterly report to LHJ Data Stewards listing who has access to which data sets, per DOH records. The committee requested that the current spreadsheet be shared with the LHJ Data Stewards for starters.</p> <p>DC are used by a broad range of programs and providers – i.e. Electronic Death Registration System and morticians; labs who will report via Electronic Lab Reporting; etc.</p> <p>There needs to be a link to LMS for training issues.</p> <p><b>Discussion –</b> Over 200 people have seen PHIMS demonstrated and have DC. Questions were raised about firewalls for home use. As the discussion progressed, this lead to the idea of holding an IT Summit that would involved PHELF, human resource folks, IT staff, etc. Consider presenting scenarios demonstrating the future, like a table top exercise, that would demonstrate issues around distance learning, data access, etc. Consider developing a tool kit and assessment tools.</p> <p><b>ACTION –</b> Explore planning an IT Summit, sponsored by PHIT – Frank, Ed, Joan and Marie to meet by phone ASAP.</p> <p>Consider forming a subcommittee to plan an IT Summit – volunteers include: Kathy, Carol, Brent, Melanie, Mike.</p> <p>Check work done by other states in this regard.</p>
Next Meeting – January 28, 2004	<b>Suggested Agenda Items –</b>

	<p>Minimum requirements - couple hour discussion regarding minimum hardware, software, distance learning, security, etc.</p> <p>LMS - update</p> <p>Electronic Death Registration – update</p> <p>Omaha – update</p> <p>Evolving technology – show and tell regarding Blackberry, Tablets, etc. Discuss pro/con of each.</p>
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PHIT Communication Tools: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/pip/InfoTech/default.htm>  
2004 Meeting Dates: January 28, April 28, July 28, October 27  
Routine Meeting Date/Time: Quarterly – 1<sup>st</sup> Month of the Quarter; 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the Month; 9am – 3pm.  
Routine Meeting Place: Wyndham Hotel, SeaTac, WA